

BIRD BANDING DEPARTMENT

Under the Direction of Wm. I. Lyon, Waukegan, Ill.

WANTED—More Bird Banders, anywhere, everywhere. If you cannot be one yourself make it your duty to catch and tag someone else.

The possibilities of Bird Banding are limitless. It is by far the most fascinating sort of bird-study imaginable. The contributions it can make to the scientific knowledge of birds are of inestimable value. The work is within the reach of all, or at least of all who have a suitable location for a trap; it involves but little expense and requires no great experience and little ornithological knowledge.

The results will increase in geometrical progression as the number of bird-banders increase. And we may confidently expect that more people will actively take up the work as its possibilities become better understood.

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NOTES FROM SAULT STE. MARIE

My banding experience this far has been partly good and partly bad, the bad largely due to lack of time.

I have had a flock of Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*) regularly at my feeding station every winter since the winter of 1915-16. Last year the first of the flock arrived August 24, numbered 35 to 40, the last two leaving May 25. For some reason the birds were very scary so I did not try to band any until early in March. I had no success. The birds did not mind the trap at all, perched all over it, pecked all around it and in the entrance, but would not go in. Only one bird got into the trap and that was one day when I was out of town, so it was let go without banding. I have had a drop trap made and hope to have better success when the flock returns.

Dr. Christofferson, my associate in bird work, and myself have again located the Evening Grosbeaks in the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in summer. The first reports of the birds being here in summer came to us in 1920. On investigation we found the reports correct. We checked the birds in the same localities last year and again this year. The nearest point to the Soo is about 35 miles to the west.

A colony of Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) nest every year on a low lying island in Munuscong Bay, 25 miles southeast of the Soo.

In 1920 we visited the island, May 29, and found 52 nests, 86 eggs; June 24, 72 nests, 28 young, 148 eggs; 1921, May 28, 105 nests, 234 eggs; June 16, 1922, 15 eggs, all young out of nests; May 28, 39 nests, 75 eggs.

The nests were more scattered than usual, probably because the birds had been disturbed. We found the shells of over two dozen eggs near a camp fire.

As on June 24, 1920, there were young just hatched and eggs in the